

The Norman Conquest

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turmoil, Conrad II,, marching southward, seized Capua in May, 1038, and Pandulf sought an asylum in Constantinople. In his stead Conrad invested Gaimur with Salerno, Capua, and Gaſta, The Emperor then invested Rainulf with Aversa, but probably an a vassal of Salerno and not directly, of the Empire, ' When Conrad retired north he left Gaimar the first man in South Italian politics; in 1040 he was lord of Capua, Gaſta, Amalfi, Aquino, and Trajetto, as well as Salerno, while he invested his brother Guy as Count of Sorrento,

Mean while, the Greeks were not idle. The court of Constantinople, where Zoë was the real power, and her husband Michael IV, nominal Emperor, had in George Maniaces a distinguished commander, and one famous for his skill and valour at the of Edessa, He was commissioned to restore Byzantine authority in Sicily, where a favourable opening for intervention pre- itself, There was a standing quarrel between the Moslems long 'established in Sicily, and the newer arrivals from Africa, and the government itself was divided on the question, In 1035, Ahmed Al-Akhal, Emir of Sicily,

leader of
the "African." or "Berber" party,
failing to sup-
a revolution of the "Sicilians" under
his
brother Abu-Hftfa, turned to
Constantinople and

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